

Snapshot

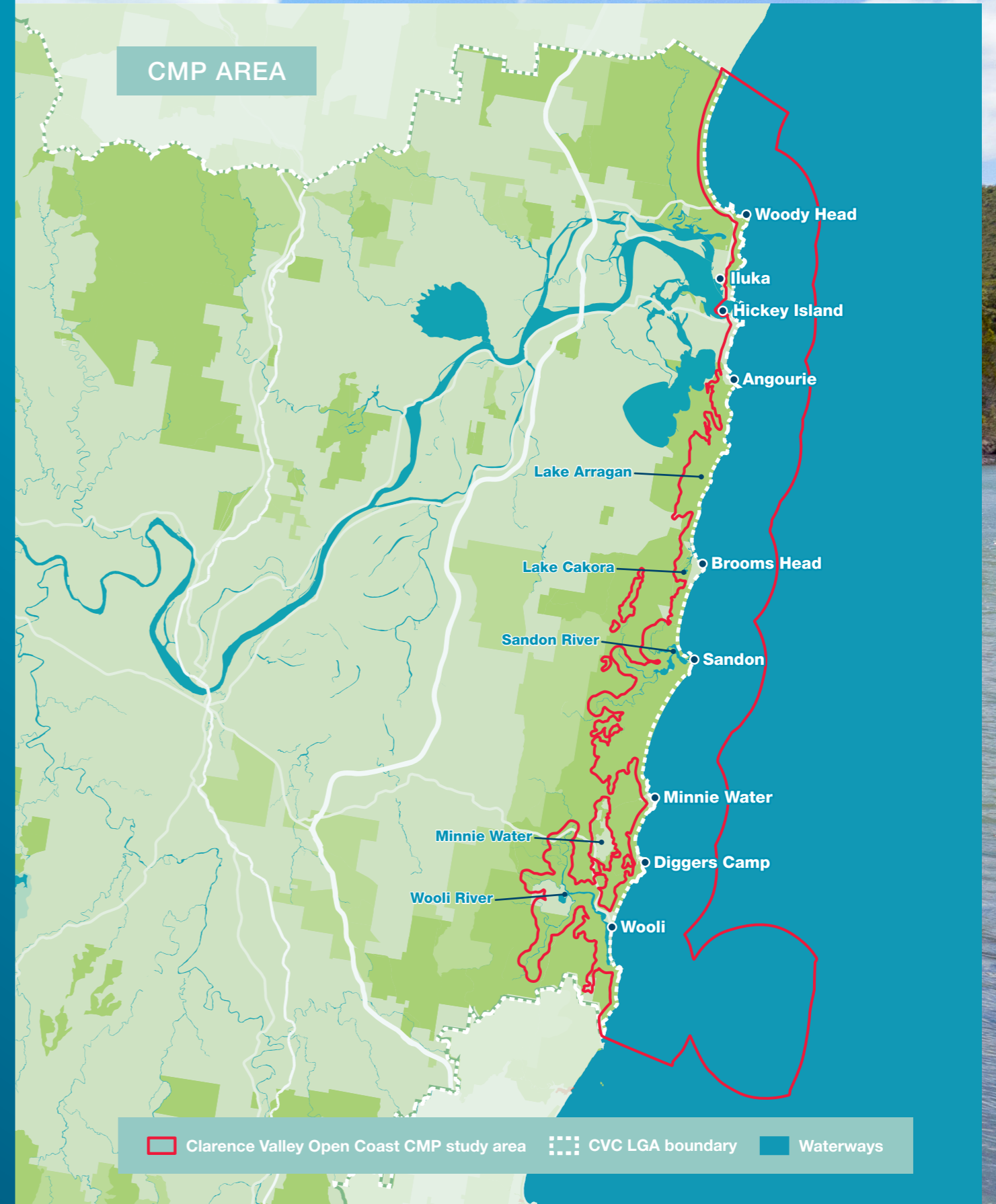
Clarence Valley Open Coast Coastal Management Program

What is the Coastal Management Program?

The Clarence Valley Open Coast Coastal Management Program (CMP) is a long-term strategy for the coordinated management of the Clarence Valley Open Coast. It includes strategies and actions to address the key threats and support the diversity of natural values and human uses along the Clarence Valley coastline. The actions are to be implemented by Council and other land managers over the next 10 years.

What area does the CMP cover?

The CMP covers the open beaches, foreshores and coastal waters of the Clarence Valley including Woody Head, Iluka beaches, Yamba, Angourie, Brooms Head, Sandon, Minnie Water, Diggers Camp and Wooli. It also covers the estuaries and lagoons of Lake Cakora, Lake Arragan, Sandon River and Wooli Wooli River. The CMP does not include the Clarence River estuary of which a separate CMP will be prepared. The area covered by the CMP is the traditional land of the Yaegl People.

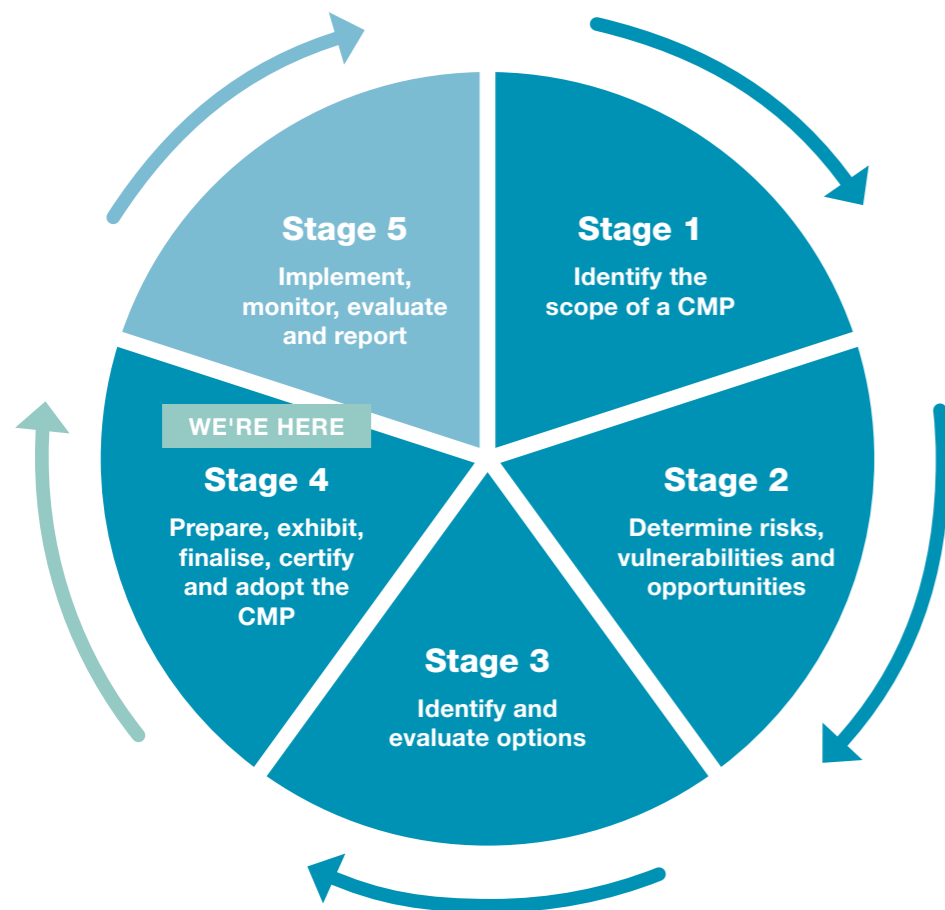


On the cover: Angourie.
This page: Wooli.

What is the process for developing a CMP?

THE FIVE STAGE PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A CMP:

- **Stage 1:** Scoping study completed by Hydrosphere Consulting in March 2021.
- **Stage 2:** Vulnerabilities and opportunities study completed in November 2023.
- **Stage 3:** Identification and evaluation of options study completed in April 2024.
- **Stage 4:** This CMP.

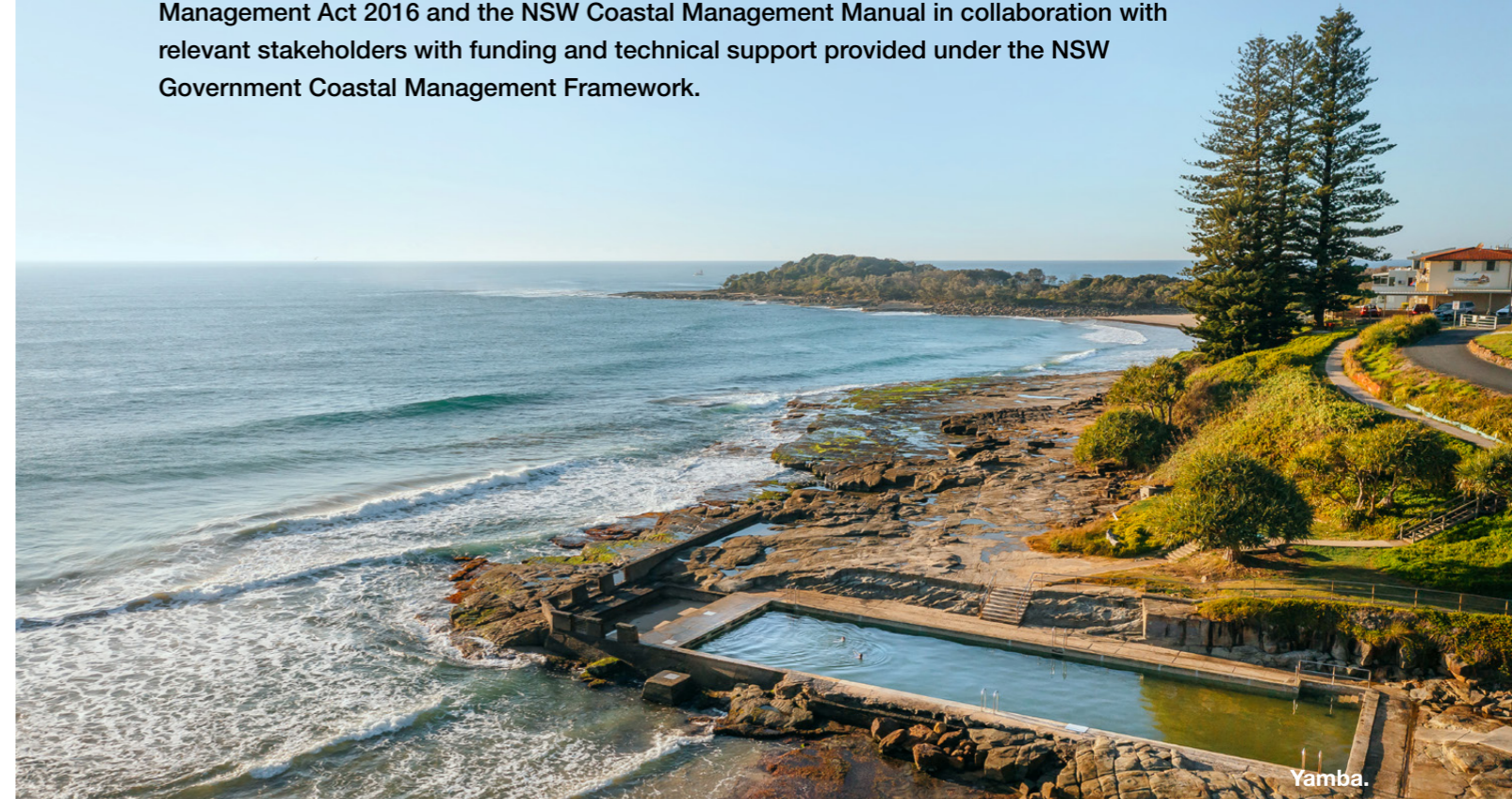


“We’re now at Stage 4 of 5 of the Clarence Valley Open Coast CMP, which is the final opportunity for you to provide feedback and input to the document.”

Why has the CMP been developed?

Council had numerous management plans which were used to manage the Clarence Valley coastline. Under the Coastal Management Act 2016, existing certified Coastal Zone Management Plans expired on 31 December 2023. Council needs to have a certified CMP to seek financial assistance under the State Government’s Coastal and Estuary Grants Program for implementing coastal management works.

The CMP has been prepared in accordance with the mandatory requirements of the Coastal Management Act 2016 and the NSW Coastal Management Manual in collaboration with relevant stakeholders with funding and technical support provided under the NSW Government Coastal Management Framework.



What are the key values and uses?

The core environmental values of the study area are associated with its landscape amenity (i.e. geographical features, scenic amenity and views), healthy and diverse natural environments and biodiversity values. For many community members, interaction with the coast and estuaries is a highly valued part of life. The beaches and waterways provide a place for social interaction, recreation, relaxation, nature appreciation, connection, exercise and commercial activities.

What are the key threats?

Threats are activities or processes that directly or indirectly impact the identified values and uses of the Clarence Valley coastline.

Threats to the Clarence Valley coastline were initially identified through review of existing scientific information, management plans and CMP community and stakeholder consultation. Understanding of coastal hazard threats was further developed through detailed studies prepared during the development of the CMP. Threats were assessed using a risk assessment that considered the likelihood and consequence of each threat across present day, 20-year, 50-year and 100-year time periods.

Present day key moderate-high risk threats include:

- Beach erosion/recession
- Tidal/coastal inundation
- Entrance instability
- Slope instability
- Erosion of foreshores
- Historic clearing of riparian vegetation and adjacent habitat
- Foreshore development
- Invasive weeds
- Seagrass decline
- Uncontrolled dog access
- Vehicles on beaches
- Feral animals
- Modification of coastal wetland habitat due to coastal hazards
- Pollution from on-site wastewater systems
- Poor flushing of ICOLLs
- Shoaling and sediment movements within estuaries
- Erosion and sediment affecting navigation
- Damage to beach access points
- Reduced accessible beach at high tide due to coastal protection works
- Litter

How were actions developed?

The actions in the CMP were initially developed through review of existing management plans, recommendations developed through the CMP process and community and stakeholder input during the development of the CMP. Actions were put through a multi-criteria assessment which assessed the viability, feasibility and acceptability of the actions. The assessment of options for each management zone considered the local coastal processes and hazards, values of each area and the extent of public and private development.

How will actions be implemented?

The CMP will be primarily implemented by Council through its yearly operational plan and four-yearly delivery program. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service are also responsible for implementing a range of actions in the CMP. Transport for NSW – Maritime and NSW DPI – Fisheries are also responsible for implementing some actions in the CMP.



How will actions be funded?

CMP actions are expected to be funded through Council and state government contributions, monetary grants and volunteer works by community members and organisations. Some actions will be funded under CVC's normal operating budgets or through existing programs and grants. It will not be possible for CVC to implement all actions without additional sources of funding. As such, identification of additional funding mechanisms and grants will be an important component of the CMP and the development stages. State Government assigned actions will be funded through their own budgets.

Key Actions in the Clarence Valley Open Coast CMP

Numerous actions have been developed to address identified threats and opportunities along the coastline. Some actions are site specific and some actions are relevant to the whole study area, are fundamental to the successful implementation of a CMP, support the management approach across the study area or are not specific to particular location.

Sandon.

Focus areas

- All areas
- Iluka
- Yamba
- Angourie
- Brooms Head
- Sandon-Minnie Water
- Diggers Camp
- Woolli

KEY ACTIONS ACCORDING TO FOCUS AREA

All areas

Protection of cultural heritage

Work with Yaegl people to assess impacts of coastal hazards on cultural heritage values, develop opportunities to enhance cultural heritage values and support the development of opportunities for education, employment, and training for Yaegl people within the coastal zone.

Incorporate coastal hazard risks in CVC asset management planning

Existing asset management plans covering water supply, sewerage, transport, buildings, floodplain, waste, holiday parks and open space infrastructure will be updated to address vulnerability of assets to coastal hazards and identify suitable asset management approaches.

Review and implement planning controls to address coastal hazards

Review and evaluate potential LGA-wide planning control approaches to address coastal hazard risks considering available local or state-based mechanisms. Communicate and implement the preferred approach.

Estuary health monitoring program

The NSW Government will continue the NSW government's estuary health monitoring program at Woolli Woolli River, Lake Cakora, Lake Arragan and Sandon River and undertake periodic analysis of water quality.

Implement emergency response procedures

Emergency response includes actions to address residual risk in emergency situations. Emergency response procedures have been developed for areas that are at risk from coastal hazards (where coastal protection works have not been implemented or are not always effective) to limit the consequences of large and/or unpredicted coastal events.

Recreational water quality monitoring

The Beachwatch program will be reinstated based on the state-wide program where required to assess the suitability of water quality at key swimming locations/areas of high primary contact along the coastline.

KEY ACTIONS ACCORDING TO FOCUS AREA

Iluka

Coastal habitat restoration

Prepare and implement a coastal habitat restoration and vegetation management plan for Moriarty's and Iluka Main Beach. The plan may include works locations, a weed management regime, public access management, species to be used for revegetation, dune management works, educational signage and monitoring and maintenance requirements.

Monitor coastal hazards

A coastal hazard monitoring and reporting program will be implemented for the Iluka peninsula to assist in identifying changes to the coastal environment to inform decision making, management responses and community education.

Develop Iluka adaptive management strategy

Management of the coastal hazard risks facing the Iluka peninsula are complex and challenging and the development of a longer-term strategy is required to address coastal hazard risks.

Iluka.

KEY ACTIONS ACCORDING TO FOCUS AREA

Yamba

Monitor coastal hazards

A coastal hazard monitoring and reporting program will be implemented for the Yamba beaches to assist in identifying changes to the coastal environment to inform decision making, management responses and community education.

Manage slope stability at Pilot Hill

Implement instrumentation and monitoring improvements, undertake geotechnical investigations and slope stability assessment and implement slope stability measures at Pilot Hill.

Replace/upgrade Yamba Main Beach seawall

Review and update design and environmental assessment for replacement of Yamba Main Beach seawall. Construct seawall.

Sand nourishment Whiting Beach

Advocate for the use of dredged sand for nourishment of Whiting Beach. Alternative sand sources for sand nourishment will also be investigated and implemented if required.

Coastal habitat restoration

Prepare and implement coastal habitat restoration and vegetation management plans for Pilot Hill, Lovers Point and Pippi Beach. The plans may include works locations, implementation details such as a weed management regime, species to be used for revegetation, public access management, dune stabilisation, educational signage, monitoring and maintenance requirements.

Angourie

Algae monitoring

An algae monitoring and education program will be reinstated to assess the risks associated with algal blooms within the Blue and Green pools with a view to reducing risks to swimmers during high risk periods.

Coastal habitat restoration

Prepare and implement a coastal habitat restoration and vegetation management plan for Angourie Blue/ Green pools which may include works locations, implementation details such as a weed management regime, species to be used for revegetation, public access management, dune stabilisation, educational signage and monitoring and maintenance requirements.

KEY ACTIONS ACCORDING TO FOCUS AREA

Brooms Head

Monitor coastal hazards

A coastal hazard monitoring and reporting program will be implemented for Brooms Head to assist in identifying changes to the coastal environment to inform decision making, management responses and community education.

Coastal habitat restoration

Prepare and implement a coastal habitat restoration and vegetation management plan for the Brooms Head Reserve, adjoining reserves and Brooms Head Back Beach. The plan may include works locations, implementation details such as a weed management regime, species to be used for revegetation, public access management, dune stabilisation, educational signage and monitoring and maintenance requirements.

Mitigate beach erosion and recession

Undertake dune rehabilitation and extension of foreshore reserve revetment at Brooms Head reserve. Beach scraping may also be undertaken as an interim or supporting measure.

Manage Lake Cakora

Continue the implementation of the on-site sewerage management inspection and compliance program and investigate sustainable methods of effluent management. The feasibility of artificial entrance management of Lake Cakora will be investigated, and an interim management regime will be developed. An overall management strategy for Lake Cakora will also be developed to address potential risks from catchment flooding, urban stormwater and wastewater management systems.



KEY ACTIONS ACCORDING TO FOCUS AREA

Sandon - Minnie Water

Coastal habitat restoration

Prepare and implement a coastal habitat restoration and vegetation management plan for the Sandon village public reserve and Minnie Water Foreshore Reserve. The plan may include works locations, implementation details such as a weed management regime, species to be used for revegetation, public access management, dune stabilisation, educational signage and monitoring and maintenance requirements.

Diggers Camp

Coastal habitat restoration

Implement actions outlined in the existing vegetation management plan for Diggers Camp including weed management, foredune maintenance, revegetation and monitoring and management of asset protection zones.

Woolli

Monitor coastal hazards

A coastal hazard monitoring and reporting program will be implemented for Woolli to assist in identifying changes to the coastal environment to inform decision making, management responses and community education.

Mitigate beach erosion and recession

Continue to implement the Woolli Beach Management Strategy which includes beach scraping. Alternative sources for sand nourishment of Woolli Beach will also be investigated.

Bank management and waterway access

Consider and implement the recommendations of the Woolli Woolli River bank and riparian condition assessment (to be prepared by DPI - Fisheries) for priority bank remediation sites on Council managed land. Opportunities to enhance recreational access to the beach and river in the vicinity of Woolli Village will also be investigated and undertaken.

More info

The actions outlined in this document are a snapshot only. Not all CMP actions are included here. For a full list of actions or more detail on specific actions please refer to the full Clarence Valley Open Coast CMP (draft for public exhibition) document available on the Council website www.clarence.nsw.gov.au

Get involved

The draft will be on public exhibition for 28 days from Friday 28 June. To have your say search Clarence Valley Open Coast Coastal Management Program on Council's website, www.clarence.nsw.gov.au

Next steps

Following public exhibition all submissions will be collated and addressed in a submissions report and considered in the preparation of the final draft CMP. The draft Clarence Valley Open Coast CMP is scheduled for endorsement/adoption by Council in August 2024. It will then be sent to the Minister for certification with the aim to begin implementation in the 2025/2026 financial year.